said descriptive data including a changeable characteristic of a given article and selectively also profile data characterizing a user and/or user preferences;

said one or more processors being programmed to scan said MRL and permit a user to complete a transaction involving said given article including reading said descriptive data in said data store, said transaction being responsive to said descriptive data.

4. (Amended)   A system as in claim 1, wherein said descriptive data includes a quantity of material of said article.

5. (Amended)   A system as in claim 1, wherein said one or more processors are connectable to be controlled at a terminal such that a maker of said article can at least partially create said descriptive data by inputting data into said terminal.

8. (Amended)   A method for tracking descriptive information about a changeable article, comprising the steps of:

attaching a machine readable label (MRL) having a unique code to an article;

at a first location, storing a correlation between descriptive information about said article and said unique code in a data store; and

at one or more second locations, reading said unique code to obtain at least a portion of said descriptive information using said correlation in said data store.